



Billings
PLANNING
& COMMUNITY
SERVICES

Community Development

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<https://www.ci.billings.mt.us/114/Community-Development>

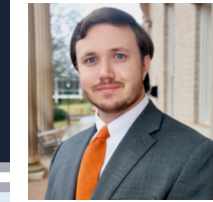
Four full year VISTA members served from 2018 to 2021 on a three-year initiative with the City of Billings to reduce the use of methamphetamine and opioids in our community by:

- conducting a community assessment and a developing sustainable framework of education, prevention, and intervention plans for addressing to reduce the use of methamphetamine / opioids
- building relationships with local non-profit service providers / health care leaders and coordinating strategies to reduce the use of methamphetamine
- developing intervention resources and distributing
- partnering with addiction treatment organizations to increase and promote the use of art as a therapeutic aid for promoting recovery

This project helped to alleviate poverty by connecting low-income, addicted persons to programs that provide mental health services, substance abuse treatment, life-skills, education, so they may achieve success in acquiring health and the opportunity to move out of poverty.

Read the [Community Assessment](#)
Read about the [Dive.ART Program](#)

Community-Wide Opioid & Methamphetamine Response Initiative



These Billings Metro VISTA Project Members served to reduce opioid / methamphetamine abuse in the Yellowstone County community.

In July 2018, the Billings Metro VISTA Project began a three-year AmeriCorps VISTA project to better understand and begin addressing the increasing rates of methamphetamine and opioid abuses in Yellowstone County in recent years.

Over the three-year initiative, these members partnered and coordinated with 16 different organizations : United Way's Substance Abuse Connect Coalition, the Billings Police Department's Drug Enforcement Administration, Montana 211, the Downtown Billings Alliance Spare Change for Real Change Fund, Passages at Alternatives, the Phoenix Recovery Gym, the SOAR Drug Court, STEP Recovery, Gratitude in Action, Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council, Billings First Congregational Church, BitterRoot Sip and Paint, Crooked Line Studio, Walmart, Blinks Art Supplies, and Kirk's Grocery.